

**Public Notice for 401 Certification
Russian River Bank Stabilization Project
Sonoma County**

On December 20, 2002 the North Coast Regional Water Quality Control Board (Regional Water Board) received an application from Mr. Gary Getchell requesting approval for disturbances to waters of the state and other water quality impacts associated with the development of the proposed project. Therefore, the Regional Water Board is now processing an after-the fact permit for this project.

On May 11, 2002, the rupture of a water main caused severe bank erosion that undermined a detached garage and was threatening to undermine a home at 21856 Highway 116, Monte Rio, Sonoma County, Assessors Parcel Number 094-025-029. The bank failure was about 30 feet wide at the top of the bank and about 100 feet wide at the toe.

The project initially entailed the excavation and removal of 2,710 cubic yards (cy) of debris, vegetation, and slide material displaced by a broken water line owned by the Sweetwater Water District, and the subsequent placement of 3,380 cy of imported fill material, crushed rock, and 1/4-to 2-ton rock slope protection on the eroding bank; of this volume, approximately 1,220 cy of rock and excavated backfill material was placed below the plane of ordinary high water, affecting 0.03 acre of riverbed.

The completed project included a 10-foot wide keyway excavated along the toe-of-slope, a rock-faced bank constructed at a 1.5:1 slope above the keyway, and two 10-foot-wide terraces incorporated into the finished bank. The terraces were planted with willows and other native riparian species.

A Streambed Alteration Agreement was obtained from the California Department of Fish and Game (CDFG). In addition, an after-the-fact application has been submitted to the Army Corps of Engineers for an after-the-fact Clean Water Act Section 404 permit.

This project was determined to be exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) per Sonoma County PRMD Permit #GRD02-0233.

At this time, the Regional Water Board is in the process of preparing an after-the-fact CWA Section 401 permit. In addition, the Regional Water Board will consider all comments received during a 21-day comment period that begins on the first day of issuance of this letter. If you have any questions or comments, please contact staff member Andrew Jensen at (707) 576-2683, or at jensa@rb1.swrcb.ca.gov within 21 days of the posting of this notice.